



Moscow Borough Council
Meeting Minutes
Monday February 3 2025

Moscow Borough Municipal Building
123 Van Brunt Street
Moscow, PA 18444

Moscow Borough Council

Arthur Pencek - President
Edward Gaughan - Vice President
William Hiem
Marc Gaughan
Joseph Castrogiovanni
Dennis Cawley
Paula Bechaver
Mayor Rosemarie Warner

Call Meeting to Order

President Art Pencek called the February 3, 2025 regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

The following Council members were either present or absent:

Rosemarie Warner (Mayor)	Present	Joseph Castrogiovanni	Present
Arthur Pencek (President)	Present	Dennis Cawley	Present
Edward Gaughan (Vice-President)	Absent	Marc Gaughan	Present
Paula Bechaver	Present	William Heim	Present

Also present were: Amy Carlson (Business Manager) Atty. Bruce S. Zero (solicitor), Katherine Barker & Luis Arias (Junior Council) Ivy Brenzel (Police Chief) George Parker (Zoning Code Enforcement Officer) Colin Young (Chief, Moscow Volunteer Fire & Hose Co.) Mark Kozik (MarKoz Realty) Jody Ferdyn (MarKoz Realty) Marc Cordelli (Lackawanna County Director for Community Relations)

Approval of Minutes

The monthly Council meeting was held on January 6, 2025. Minutes were submitted for review and approval. Motion was made by Paula Bechaver to accept council meeting minutes as written. Motion was seconded by Marc Gaughan. The motion carried unanimously with a roll call vote.

Citizen's Comments and/or Follow-Up on Previous Citizen's Requests

Mar Koz Realty- Harmony Hills Phase III

Mark Kozik and Jody Ferdyn were in attendance representing MarKoz Realty. Mark Kozik updated Borough Council on progress for Harmony Hills Phase III Land Development Project. Mark stated that the wetlands have been identified and the infiltration testing was completed over the summer. The engineers are working part time on the design and hopefully will be applying for NPDS Permit in the next 90 to 120 days. Hopefully looking to break ground this year unless engineers hold up the process. Mark thanked council for their patience.

Mark Kozik also requested an additional 120-day extension for Harmony Hills Phase III Land Development Project with the submission of a letter dated January 29, 2025 from MarKoz Realty. Current deadline expires February 20, 2025. William Heim made a motion of an additional 120-day extension for Harmony Hills Phase III Land Development Project from February 21, 2025 to June 19, 2025. The motion was seconded by Joseph Castrogiovanni. The motion carried unanimously with a roll call vote.

Lackawanna County Events

Marc Cordelli, Lackawanna County Director for Community Relations submitted and reviewed events for the month of February 2025.

Clean and Green

Advertisement was published for 2025 Clean and Green Program Bids on December 21, 2024 and again on January 24, 2025. J.P. Mascaro & Sons was the only sealed bid received by deadline set forth of 12:00 PM EST Thursday, January 30, 2025. J.P. Mascaro & Sons bid was read aloud by Borough Council President Arthur Pencek. William Heim made a motion to accept Clean and Green for the Borough of Moscow on Friday June 6 and Saturday June 7, 2025 as the chosen dates in the amount to be paid of the bid at \$27, 491.00. Marc Gaughan seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously with a roll call vote.

Moscow Volunteer Fire and Hose Company

Fire Chief Colin Young gave the Moscow Volunteer Fire and Hose Co. reports. 116 Total calls for the month of January 2025. Breakdown is 104 EMS and 12 Fire calls.

A motion was made by Paula Bechaver to hire Colleen E. Morrissey, EMT at \$18.00 per hour. All paperwork and clearances have been submitted. Temporary Driver's License to 02/14/25 on file, must provide updated permanent driver's license after this date to continue employment. Marc Gaughan seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously with a roll call vote.

Paula Bechaver made a motion as stated in Senate Bill 94 for the required annual approval for members of the Moscow Fire and Hose Company who are not directly related to firefighting to participate in the following activities. Maintenance of the company property or vehicles, administrative duties, community events, parades and fundraising events. William Heim seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously with a roll call vote.

General Correspondence

Laurel Lines Vol 52, Issue 1 – January 2025 submitted for informational piece.

Thank You from NP Cultural Society to both Moscow Borough and Police Departments regarding Russian Christmas Event held on January 4, 2025 submitted for informational piece

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer's Report was submitted and reported for the month of January 2025. William Heim made a motion to accept the treasurers report as reported and to pay the bills as presented. Paula Bechaver seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously with a roll call vote.

Real Estate Tax Collector's Report

Real Estate Tax Report for January 2025 and Return of Taxes for 2024 Report was submitted as informational piece for review.

Financial Report

Joseph Castrogiovanni made a motion to transfer Peoples Security Bank & Trust Co. certificate of deposit mature date of January 30, 2025 in the amount of \$11,127.50 to Edward Jones at 4.20% for a term of 1 year due to the higher interest rate offered. William Heim seconded the motion. Amy Carlson, Business Manager will notify Elizabeth Murray, Treasurer to move forward with the process.

Examination report of the Liquid Fuels Tax Fund of the Borough of Moscow, Lackawanna County, for the period January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023 from Auditor General Timothy L. DeFoor, Department of the Auditor General, Bureau of County Audits submitted as informational piece for review.

William Heim made a motion to accept Resolution 309-2025 TCC Voting Delegate Appointment Marc Gaughan seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Streets/Planning Commission and Council of Governments:

There was no Planning Commission Meeting on Monday January 27, 2025 due to lack of topic content.

Email dated January 23, 2025 from Robert Bochicchio, P.E., DBIA of Greenman Pedersen, Inc. regarding SR 435P01 Moscow Borough Municipal Response Form from Brad Newhard, P.E. of CDR Maguire Engineering for informational piece

Marc Gaughan stated DPW Department is in good shape with salt and road treatment for the winter only have used half of the inventory at this point.

Zoning and Code Enforcement Officer George Parker

Monthly Report for January 2025 was submitted for review.

Art Pencek asked about Coordination regarding Leeward Construction contract. George stated Leeward Construction brought some equipment in but have not yet started any work.

Art Pencek asked about Prepare response to U.S. Dept of Commerce, U.S. Census Bureau questionnaire Form C-404, George stated that it was annual report needed to be filed.

Police Report

Chief Brenzel gave the police report for January 2024 Report. There were a total of 107 911- calls and 100 cleared calls for the month, also several events and training.

Helped with Russian Christmas Events sponsored by the NP Cultural Society on January 4, 2025.

Junior Council

Marc Gaughan recognized and commended Katherine Barker and Luis Arias as participants in the North Pocono Science Olympiad that will be competing in the next round at Carnegie Mellon, Pittsburgh, PA and Mechanicsburg, PA.

Municipal Building

Art Pencek and Mark Mecca are waiting for Scott Staniszewski Plumbing to report back with pricing for a new larger boiler to replace temporary one now in the building. Once that guidance is released GPI may need to draw up specs and the borough to put out for bid.

Moscow Sewer Authority

Art Pencek stated they are starting working that is only update he has.

Adjournment

Motion was made by Paula Bechaver to adjourn the meeting. Motion was seconded by William Heim. The motion carried unanimously.

Minutes submitted by Amy Carlson